

MINUTES OF THE  
UNIFIED GOVERNMENT  
WYCO/KCK BOARD OF PARK  
COMMISSIONERS

Wednesday, September 8th, 2021

The September 8th, 2021 meeting of the Unified Government WyCo/KCK Board of Park Commissioners was held via ZOOM Online

**CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting of the Unified Government Board of Park Commissioners was called to order at 6:10 p.m. by Ty Collins, Chairman.

Ty Collins stated that he could see that there were not enough members in attendance required for a quorum

**ROLL CALL:**

There was no quorum due to lack of member attendance

**Board Members Present:**

Ty Collins, Chairman

Patricia Gates, Member

Jeff Sachen, Second Vice Chair

Tammie Romstad, KCKPS

**Board Members Absent:**

Micah King, Member

Billy Brame, First Vice Chair

Bridget Holton-Deere, Secretary

Carolyn Wyatt, Member

Faith Rivera, Member

John McTaggart, Member

Craig Howell, Member

Administration Present:

Angel Obert, Parks and Recreation, Director

Jack Webb, Parks and Recreation, Assistant Director

James Bain, Counselor

Nichole Marlowe, Administrative Support Supervisor

- BOARD MEMBER'S QUESTIONS OR COMMENT

- Commissioner Philbrook was present at this meeting and stated that she would like the Parks & Recreation Staff to give an update on the parks, there was a discussion with James Bain from the Legal Department, and it was decided that since there was no voting taking place it would be acceptable for staff to give updates.

Jack Webb stated – “I will go ahead and start us off. First off, I’m sure everyone knows that Angel is our new Director, so she is in charge of the Parks and Recreation Department. I congratulate her. The mowing update we are working overtime to catch up on mowing, we had to pull off for a few days to pick up storm debris but for the most part we are on schedule and the contractors are on schedule. We are adjusting some PO’s, we are running out of fund this late in the year on a couple of mowing PO’s so we are adjusting some funds around. CDBG project at Clifton Park, we pulled the part out that we left out in 2019 about the play system at City Park, the shade structure to keep the ball from going into the playground, we put that in the 2020 and we are moving forward with that to get it started. The other part is in design build they decided to add a spray park to the Clifton Park Project so that is going to take some engineering to get that mocked up to get it out. Klamm Park walking trail design stages one and two we are working with Benesch now to get it on paper to get it to the Procurement to go out to bid, it should go out to bid mid September or maybe the third week in September. Spray Parks, overall, this year went pretty smooth, we have now shut them down due to the end of the season. We are spending this week winterizing them and replacing some parts and taking some electric parks out and back flows out for the winter. Heathwood we need to buy a new brain for it for the next year, we had some problems with it. We will get to work on that because it is several weeks to get those in. We want to remind everyone about the Holiday Lighting Show at Bonner the Wyandotte County Park. As you know we are partnering with Jolt Lighting for a drive through lighting display, it is a go, so we look forward to that it’s been a long time coming for that, so we are excited to have them. And that is all I got, Angel.”

Angel Obert stated – “Thanks Jack, I’ll just go over a couple of items real quick, so as far as holiday events go we’re still being very cautious with COVID, I’m sure many of you saw the gathering guidance that the Health Department came out with on August 25<sup>th</sup>, so that is just a recommendation, it’s not a requirement. So, we are letting our reservations know and our customers know that this is out there and we’re not enforcing it as Parks & Recreation on our reservations and our customers but we are noticing that some of them are making the decision to

make cancelations and what have you. As far as that goes for Parks & Recreation events and holiday events, we are evaluating those. Typically, we have the Craft Show, we will be canceling that event this year again just for safety and the best interest of our community and being in a closed space and having vendors, we just didn't think that was a smart decision this year and we got some input again this year from the Health Department on that. So, if anybody wants access to the it is on the Health Department's website. Now I will update on recreation, so right now we do have our flag football and soccer program taking place, if you follow us on Facebook you have probably noticed we partnered with the Kansas City Chief's for the flag football program this year and we did see registration numbers increase, we think obviously being a partner with the Chief's had a lot to do with that. Our kids are going to get an amazing experience still at the affordable program rate that we have for Parks & Recreation. We are also partnering with Compass Mineral Sporting Fields to play the games there at their facility. I think we have about 200 youth right now registered for flag football, which is awesome. So again, we are working through what that looks like as far a COVID and safety protocols and of course implementing the plans that we have had in place that we have been requiring as we have been moving through that process and that is all the updates I have for today."

Jeff Sachen stated – "Congratulations Angel."

Tammie Romstad asked - "Angel what were your numbers like before you partnered with them, I mean I know you did do it last fall, but as I said there's an increase, but what were, and what ages, were they number wise?"

Angel Obert responded – "I think that in 2019 was the last time we ran it pre COVID, obviously, and you know our flag football program it's not one of our stronger programs, but it was about 100 kids so it's more than doubled and the age groups are the same."

Tammie Romstad said – "Good deal."

Angel Obert responded – "Yeah we are really excited about that, of course too you know without being said our soccer program is always busting at the seams, and it seems like we can't ever get enough couches for that so we have to pause on registration, which is a good problem to have, but we need to recruit more coaches and get more volunteers, if we can."

Ty Collins stated – "Thank you guys for taking the time to even though we didn't have a formal meeting. Does anyone have any questions? Again as Jeff said Congratulations Angel, well deserved appointment to that position there and I look forward to seeing the direction that you continue to go with our Parks Department. With that being said, we don't have anything to formally close so everybody have a good night."

